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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

FOR RELEASE: July 25, 1988
Contact: Charles Pollock
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FIRST HALF MACHINE TOOL ORDERS UP 83.8%

At mid-year, orders for U.S.-made machine tools were up 83.8% compared to 1987's first half, according to figures released today by NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. First half orders totaled $1,810.15 million. Net new machine tool orders for June 1988 reached $382.45 million, up 17.8% from May's $324.70 million and up 88.6% from June 1987.

"It's been awhile since we've had half a year of good news to report," said James A. Gray, president of NMTBA. "All segments of the machine tool industry are doing well. Both the domestic and the foreign markets for U.S. equipment have gained strength. Anyway you look at it, this year has been a turnaround time for the U.S. machine tool industry. American manufacturing is undergoing a long-awaited recovery."

Mr. Gray continued, "You have to look all the way back to 1981 to see similar order totals. The mid-80's were a down and difficult period for capital goods industries. An overpriced dollar created a massive trade imbalance. Uncertainty over tax policy created a sense of unease among investors. A wait-and-see attitude pervaded. Now, we see a renewed sense of optimism and a growing trust in the future strength of America's manufacturing industries."

He added, "Our giant manufacturing technology show, IMTS-88, could not be happening at a more opportune time. We look forward with special enthusiasm to this year's show, to be held at Chicago's McCormick Place, September 7-15."

(MORE)

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However, Gray sounded a note of caution when he pointed out that "1988's machine tool order rate is still well below the average constant-dollar levels of the 1950s, '60s and '70s." (See attached graph.)

June 1988 metal cutting machine tool orders stood at $238.95 million, 1.6% below May's figure of $242.85 million. Orders for metal forming equipment rose to $143.50 million, up 75.3% from May's $81.85 million. Compared to June 1987, metal cutting orders are up 107.9% and metal forming orders are up 63.4%. Year-to-date figures for metal cutting machine tool orders reached $1,343.35 million, up 101.9% compared to 1987, while metal forming orders reached $466.80 million, a 46.1% rise.

Total machine tool shipments for June rose 18.1% compared to May, up from $179.70 million to $212.20 million. Compared to June a year ago, total shipments were off 9.0%, while year-to-date shipments fell 2.3%.

Metal cutting machine tool shipments rose to $131.85 million, up 18.5% for the month, and off 20.1% compared to June 1987. Metal forming shipments reached $80.35 million, a 17.4% rise for the month and an 18.1% rise compared to the same month last year. Compared to 1987, year-to-date metal cutting equipment shipments dropped 17.1% while shipments of metal forming equipment rose 36.9%.

The machine tool order backlog for June 1988 stood at $1,743.85 million, up from May's $1,573.60 million.

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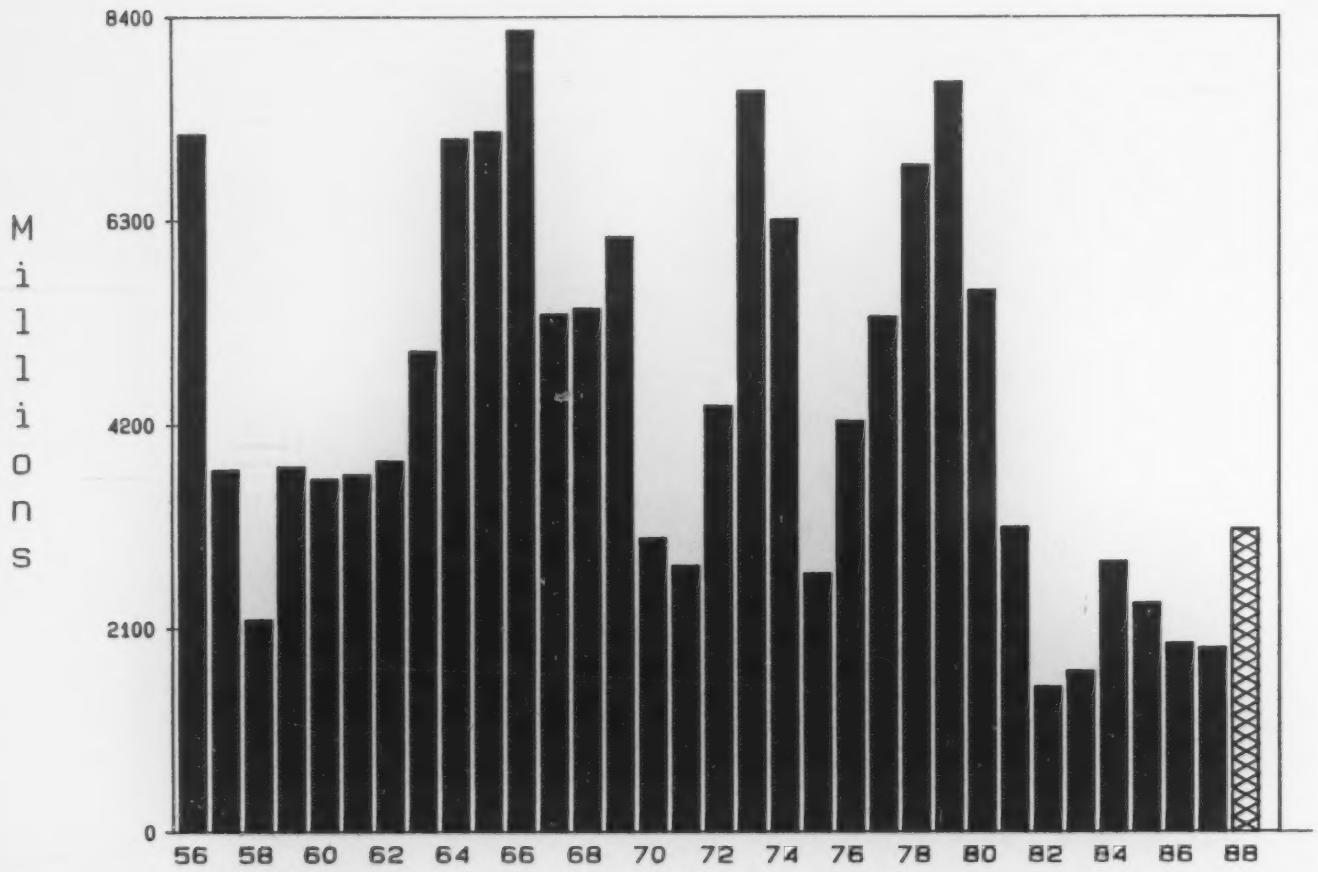
MACHINE TOOL NET NEW ORDERS, 1956-88
IN CONSTANT 1982 $



Note: 1988 based on six months data annualized.
Source: NMTBA - The Assn. for Mfg. Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	NET NEW ORDERS Foreign	NET NEW ORDERS Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	SHIPMENTS Foreign	SHIPMENTS Total
1987	$1,830.50	$ 288.30	$2,118.80	$ 999.50	$2,036.75	$ 286.90	$2,323.65
1988							
JAN	$ 266.05	$ 31.45	$ 297.50	$1,153.65	$ 125.65	$ 17.70	$ 143.35
FEB	$ 258.85	$ 39.20	$ 298.05	$1,285.25	$ 145.10	$ 21.35	$ 166.45
MAR	$ 222.05	$ 32.40	$ 254.45	$1,333.00	$ 185.75	$ 20.95	$ 206.70
APR	$ 193.45	$ 59.55	$ 253.00	$1,428.60	$ 133.90	$ 23.50	$ 157.40
MAY	$ 278.90	$ 45.80	$ 324.70	$1,573.60	$ 157.60	$ 22.10	$ 179.70
JUN (P)	$ 345.45	$ 37.00	$ 382.45	$1,743.85	$ 184.30	$ 27.90	$ 212.20
6 MONTHS	$1,564.75	$ 245.40	$1,810.15		$ 932.30	$ 133.50	$1,065.80

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	GROSS NEW ORDERS Foreign	GROSS NEW ORDERS Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	CANCELLATIONS Foreign	CANCELLATIONS Total
1987	$1,949.10	$ 303.40	$2,252.50	$ 118.60	$ 15.10	$ 133.70
1988						
JAN	$ 268.95	$ 32.30	$ 301.25	$ 2.90	$ .85	$ 3.75
FEB	$ 265.15	$ 39.35	$ 304.50	$ 6.30	$ .15	$ 6.45
MAR	$ 227.55	$ 33.10	$ 260.65	$ 5.50	$ .70	$ 6.20
APR	$ 208.15	$ 62.00	$ 270.15	$ 14.70	$ 2.45	$ 17.15
MAY	$ 287.20	$ 46.10	$ 333.30	$ 8.30	$ .30	$ 8.60
JUN (P)	$ 352.60	$ 38.40	$ 391.00	$ 7.15	$ 1.40	$ 8.55
6 MONTHS	$1,609.60	$ 251.25	$1,860.85	$ 44.85	$ 5.85	$ 50.70

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JUN 1988	211.15	27.80	238.95	134.30	9.20	143.50	345.45	37.00	382.45
MAY 1988	205.65	37.20	242.85	73.25	8.60	81.85	278.90	45.80	324.70
% CHANGE									
JUN 1988:MAY 1988	+2.7	-25.3	-1.6	+83.3	+7.0	+75.3	+23.9	-19.2	+17.8
JUN 1987	98.85	16.10	114.95	78.45	9.35	87.80	177.30	25.45	202.75
% CHANGE									
JUN 1988:JUN 1987	+113.6	+72.7	+107.9	+71.2	-1.6	+63.4	+94.8	+45.4	+88.6
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,161.10	182.25	1,343.35	403.65	63.15	466.80	1,564.75	245.40	1,810.15
YEAR TO DATE 1987	595.15	70.25	665.40	264.65	54.80	319.45	859.80	125.05	984.85
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	+95.1	+159.4	+101.9	+52.5	+15.2	+46.1	+82.0	+96.2	+83.8

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JUN 1988	115.15	16.70	131.85	69.15	11.20	80.35	184.30	27.90	212.20
MAY 1988	100.25	11.00	111.25	57.35	11.10	68.45	157.60	22.10	179.70
% CHANGE									
JUN 1988:MAY 1988	+14.9	+51.8	+18.5	+20.6	+0.9	+17.4	+16.9	+26.2	+18.1
JUN 1987	148.20	16.90	165.10	54.65	13.40	68.05	202.85	30.30	233.15
% CHANGE									
JUN 1988:JUN 1987	-22.3	-1.2	-20.1	+26.5	-16.4	+18.1	-9.1	-7.9	-9.0
YEAR TO DATE 1988	580.15	76.10	656.25	352.15	57.40	409.55	932.30	133.50	1,065.80
YEAR TO DATE 1987	707.40	84.35	791.75	256.25	42.90	299.15	963.65	127.25	1,090.90
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	-18.0	-9.8	-17.1	+37.4	+33.8	+36.9	-3.3	+4.9	-2.3

Source: NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,294.45	$ 157.00	$1,451.45	$ 672.20	$1,498.85	$ 177.65	$1,676.50
1988							
JAN	$ 205.75	$ 18.20	$ 223.95	$ 824.95	$ 61.60	$ 9.60	$ 71.20
FEB	$ 217.95	$ 32.45	$ 250.40	$ 966.45	$ 97.00	$ 11.90	$ 108.90
MAR	$ 174.15	$ 17.75	$ 191.90	$1,020.60	$ 123.95	$ 13.80	$ 137.75
APR	$ 146.45	$ 48.85	$ 195.30	$1,120.60	$ 82.20	$ 13.10	$ 95.30
MAY	$ 205.65	$ 37.20	$ 242.85	$1,252.20	$ 100.25	$ 11.00	$ 111.25
JUN (P)	$ 211.15	$ 27.80	$ 238.95	$1,359.30	$ 115.15	$ 16.70	$ 131.85
6 MONTHS	$1,161.10	$ 182.25	$1,343.35		$ 580.15	$ 76.10	$ 656.25

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,365.85	$ 167.35	$1,533.20	$ 71.40	$ 10.35	$ 81.75
1988						
JAN	$ 207.35	$ 18.80	$ 226.15	$ 1.60	$ .60	$ 2.20
FEB	$ 221.05	$ 32.55	$ 253.60	$ 3.10	$ .10	$ 3.20
MAR	$ 178.10	$ 17.95	$ 196.05	$ 3.95	$ .20	$ 4.15
APR	$ 150.30	$ 50.50	$ 200.80	$ 3.85	$ 1.65	$ 5.50
MAY	$ 210.40	$ 37.45	$ 247.85	$ 4.75	$ .25	$ 5.00
JUN (P)	$ 217.40	$ 29.10	$ 246.50	$ 6.25	$ 1.30	$ 7.55
6 MONTHS	$1,184.60	$ 186.35	$1,370.95	$ 23.50	$ 4.10	$ 27.60

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 536.05	$ 131.30	$ 667.35	$ 327.30	$ 537.90	$ 109.25	$ 647.15
1988							
JAN	$ 60.30	$ 13.25	$ 73.55	$ 328.70	$ 64.05	$ 8.10	$ 72.15
FEB	$ 40.90	$ 6.75	$ 47.65	$ 318.80	$ 48.10	$ 9.45	$ 57.55
MAR	$ 47.90	$ 14.65	$ 62.55	$ 312.40	$ 61.80	$ 7.15	$ 68.95
APR	$ 47.00	$ 10.70	$ 57.70	$ 308.00	$ 51.70	$ 10.40	$ 62.10
MAY	$ 73.25	$ 8.60	$ 81.85	$ 321.40	$ 57.35	$ 11.10	$ 68.45
JUN (P)	$ 134.30	$ 9.20	$ 143.50	$ 384.55	$ 69.15	$ 11.20	$ 80.35
6 MONTHS	$ 403.65	$ 63.15	$ 466.80		$ 352.15	$ 57.40	$ 409.55

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 583.25	$ 136.05	$ 719.30	$ 47.20	$ 4.75	$ 51.95
1988						
JAN	$ 61.60	$ 13.50	$ 75.10	$ 1.30	$ .25	$ 1.55
FEB	$ 44.10	$ 6.80	$ 50.90	$ 3.20	$ .05	$ 3.25
MAR	$ 49.45	$ 15.15	$ 64.60	$ 1.55	$ .50	$ 2.05
APR	$ 57.85	$ 11.50	$ 69.35	$ 10.85	$ .80	$ 11.65
MAY	$ 76.80	$ 8.65	$ 85.45	$ 3.55	$ .05	$ 3.60
JUN (P)	$ 135.20	$ 9.30	$ 144.50	$ .90	$ .10	$ 1.00
6 MONTHS	$ 425.00	$ 64.90	$ 489.90	$ 21.35	$ 1.75	$ 23.10

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

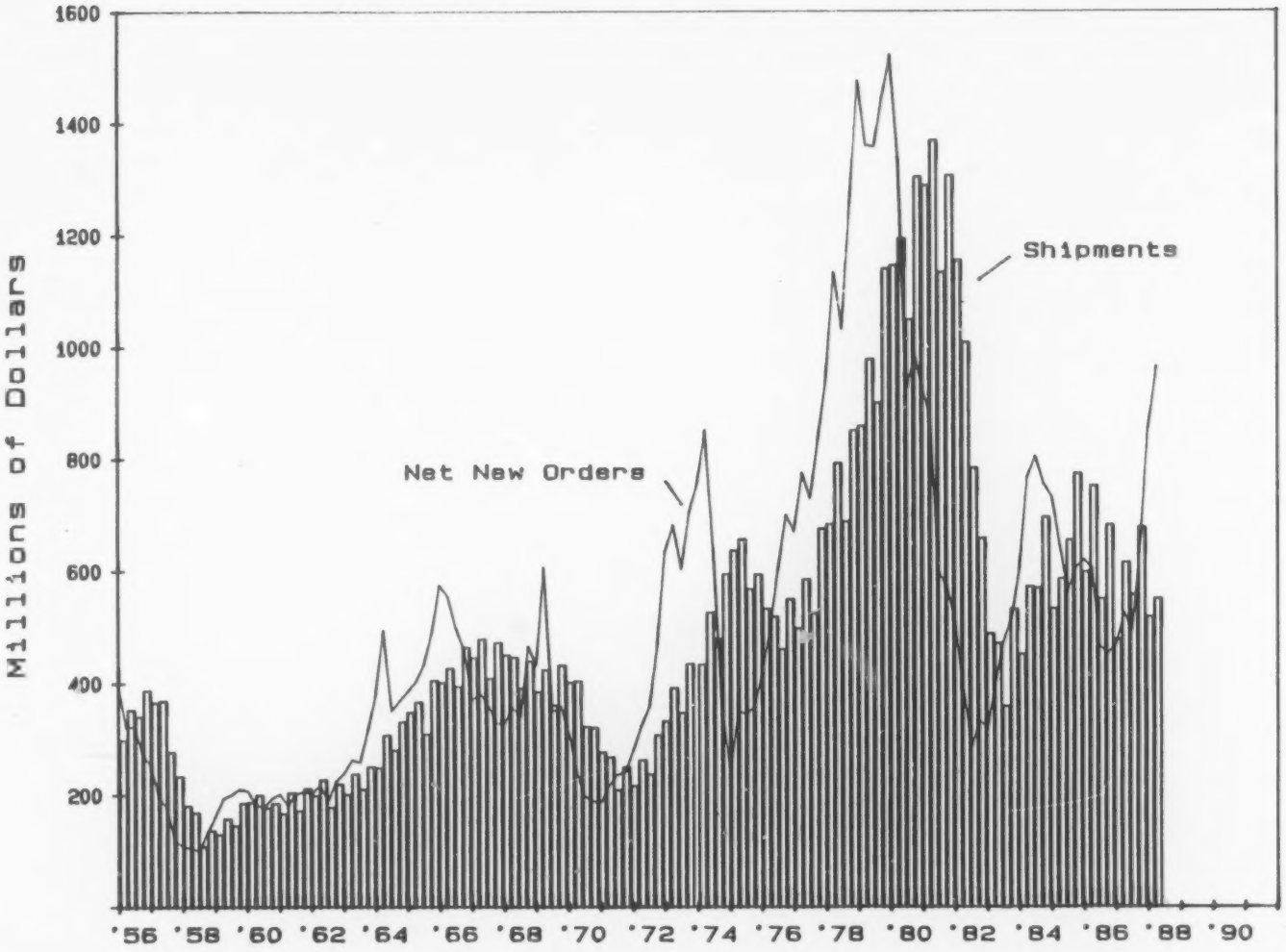
(Dollar Figures in Thousands)
1982 to Date

DATE	Cutting and Forming SHIPMENTS Total	Cutting and Forming SHIPMENTS Foreign	Cutting and Forming NET NEW ORDERS	Cutting SHIPMENTS Total	Cutting SHIPMENTS Foreign	Cutting NET NEW ORDERS	Forming SHIPMENTS Total	Forming SHIPMENTS Foreign	Forming NET NEW ORDERS
1982-1	$1,154,200	$112,650	$ 506,800	$ 933,050	$ 71,750	$ 384,850	$ 221,150	$ 40,900	$ 121,950
2	1,008,450	96,600	382,650	810,650	75,350	274,750	197,800	21,250	107,900
3	783,400	107,200	279,950	640,450	89,750	183,450	142,950	17,450	96,500
4	658,350	89,600	328,350	510,600	59,300	221,400	147,750	30,300	106,950
Total	$3,604,400	$406,050	$1,497,750	$2,894,750	$296,150	$1,064,450	$ 709,650	$ 109,900	$ 433,300
1983-1	$ 487,450	$ 56,650	$ 314,850	$ 370,600	$ 40,800	$ 224,100	$ 116,850	$ 15,850	$ 90,750
2	469,650	58,300	399,100	357,500	49,300	269,300	112,150	9,000	129,800
3	357,050	42,900	468,150	252,350	32,200	322,200	104,700	10,700	145,950
4	530,900	57,150	514,050	391,050	49,600	336,050	139,850	7,550	178,000
Total	$1,845,050	$215,000	$1,696,150	$1,371,500	$171,900	$1,151,650	$ 473,550	$ 43,100	$ 544,500
1984-1	$ 449,500	$ 40,550	$ 600,450	$ 298,100	$ 25,100	$ 412,750	$ 151,400	$ 15,450	$ 187,700
2	572,300	50,700	764,400	401,800	28,250	499,200	170,500	22,450	265,200
3	568,850	41,850	800,200	401,550	24,300	493,000	167,300	17,550	307,200
4	695,200	60,150	750,750	505,050	45,000	510,850	190,150	15,150	239,900
Total	$2,285,850	$193,250	$2,915,800	$1,606,500	$122,650	$1,915,800	$ 679,350	$ 70,600	$1,000,000
1985-1	$ 531,700	$ 48,950	$ 728,250	$ 357,050	$ 37,150	$ 528,500	$ 174,650	$ 11,800	$ 199,750
2	586,050	37,700	641,400	385,000	27,450	475,700	201,050	10,250	165,700
3	654,650	58,250	558,450	443,050	35,950	404,750	211,600	22,300	153,700
4	772,800	108,850	600,000	557,150	93,200	444,150	215,650	15,650	155,850
Total	$2,545,200	$253,750	$2,528,100	$1,742,250	$193,750	$1,853,100	$ 802,950	$ 60,000	$ 675,000
1986-1	$ 597,300	$ 67,500	$ 615,750	$ 386,950	$ 55,200	$ 463,500	$ 210,350	$ 12,300	$ 152,250
2	751,000	64,100	600,600	569,350	49,500	434,650	181,650	14,600	165,950
3	549,350	64,200	459,650	418,700	49,500	344,050	130,650	14,700	115,600
4	680,850	76,650	449,300	515,300	51,400	302,050	165,550	25,250	147,250
Total	$2,578,500	$272,450	$2,125,300	$1,890,300	$205,600	$1,544,250	$ 688,200	$ 66,850	$ 581,050
1987-1	$ 476,800	$ 55,950	$ 463,700	$ 349,150	$ 38,050	$ 326,100	$ 127,650	$ 17,900	$ 137,600
2	614,100	71,300	521,150	442,600	46,300	339,300	171,500	25,000	181,850
3	556,650	66,300	487,850	397,750	43,350	324,550	158,900	22,950	163,300
4	676,100	93,350	646,100	487,000	49,950	461,500	189,100	43,400	184,600
Total	$2,323,650	$286,900	$2,118,800	$1,676,500	$177,650	$1,451,450	$ 647,150	$ 109,250	$ 667,350
1988-1	$ 516,500	$ 60,000	$ 850,000	$ 317,850	$ 35,300	$ 666,250	$ 198,650	$ 24,700	$ 183,750
2P	549,300	73,550	960,150	338,400	40,800	677,100	210,900	32,750	283,050
Total	$1,065,800	$133,550	$1,810,150	$ 656,250	$ 76,100	$1,343,350	$ 409,550	$ 57,450	$ 466,800

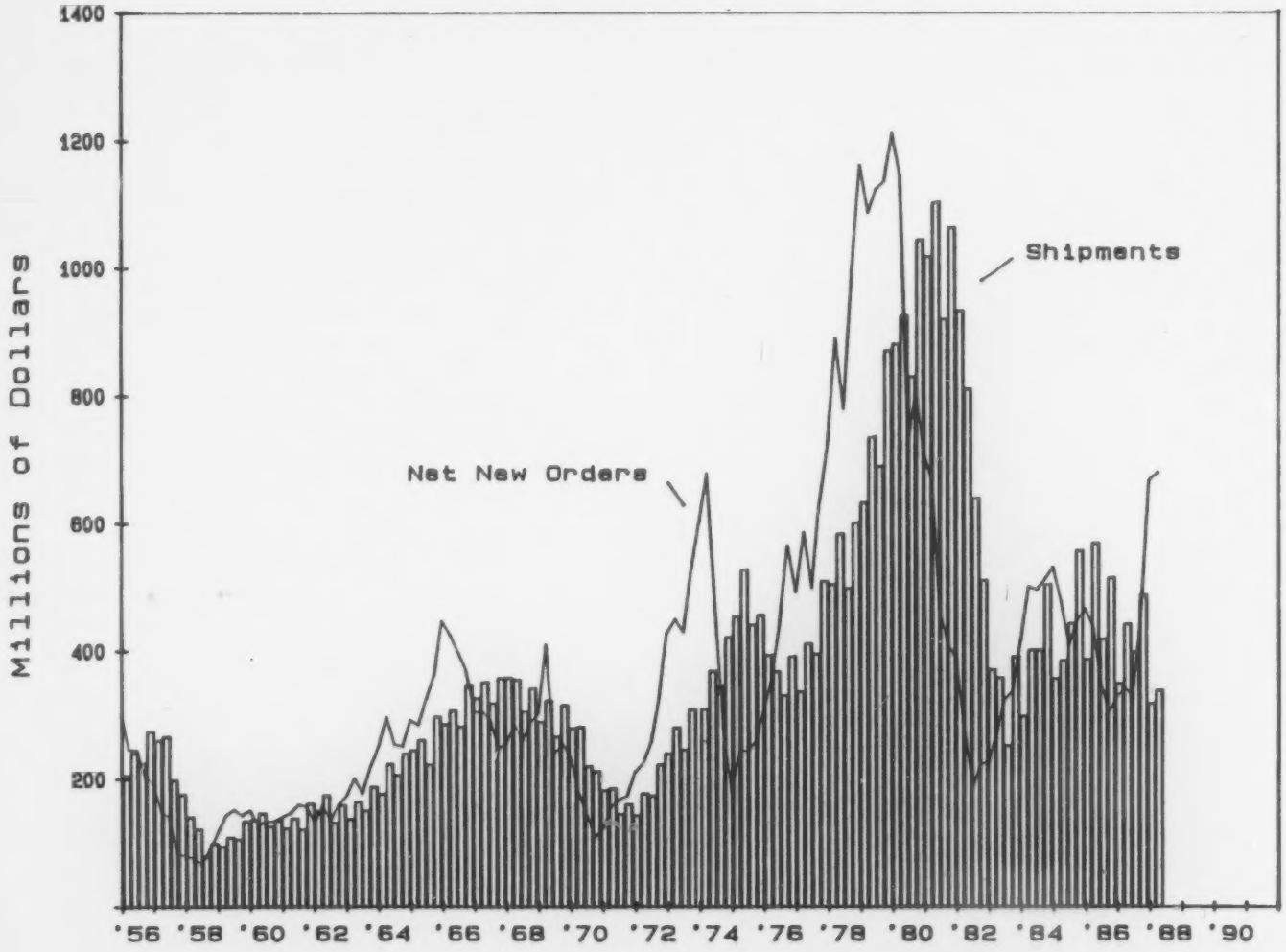
P - Preliminary
NOTE: These data series are available back to 1956. To obtain a copy of the tables for 1956 through 1988, contact: NMTBA Statistical Department, 7901 Westpark Drive, Mclean, Virginia 22102-4269. Phone: 703:893-2900
Source: NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology

July 25, 1988

Total Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1988: 2



Metal Cutting Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1988: 2



Metal Forming Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1988: 2